30 October 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD   ILLEGIB
                                                                                25X1A

SUBJECT;   Interview with [   ] Director of
             Communications, Office of Communications, regarding
             History of OC, 1953-1956.
             Also present: [   ]

25X1A
25X1A
        1. [   ] took up the questions, one by one.   He said

that he would furnish additional material and would answer additional

questions.   The first question was: What were the consequences of the

reorganization of February 1955 as far as OC was concerned?

He said that the transfer of OC from O/DCI to DD/S did not make much

difference. Gen. Cabell asked him if he had any objections to the trans-

fer being made.   Gen. Cabell explained that the Director did not have time

to supervise the Office of Training and wanted it transferred to DD/S.

It would look like discrimination if OC was not transferred also. [   ]   25X1A

25X1A
        [   ] told General Cabell and he also told the Director that OC

would cope with the change.   He asked the Director to explain the situa-

tion to the OC staff which the Director did.   OC has always gone to DD/S

for administrative support on personnel, budget and materiel.   When
                                                                 busy
OC was in O/DCI, D/CO did not feel free to go to the/Director on many

things.   Being part of DD/S does facilitate coordination with other

elements of DD/S since D/CO went to DD/S staff meetings.   It was also

useful to be briefed by DD/S on meetings of DCI's deputies.   The new

arrangement did not change the practice of DDCI calling D/CO directly

when the occasion arose.

        2. Question: What Was there any rotation of communications career

personnel with personnel from other parts of the Agency?

He said that in general career communications officers did not rotate

SECRET

with officers from other parts of the Agency. Occasionally, there
were transfers from OC to other components.   When an individual *in OC*
not a rotation,
wants to become an intelligence officer, he may request a transfer.

Col. White said that he wanted OC to detail an officer to his staff
for two years.   OC is unique in that its people are technical special-
ists in the field of communications and can make their best contribution
in OC. He said there were no experts in communications outside OC.
As for the electronics specialists in OL, they follow the specifications
made by experts in OC. [   ] admitted that there were some
electronics engineers in OSI and that if any of them wanted to rotate
in order to get added practical experience, he would be receptive.
He did not think that Col. White intended OC to rotate its personnel
with other components. Rotation, as far as OC is concerned, is internal.
OC has its career service, mechanics for assignment, rotation, and pro-
motion.   Many people have made a career of communications.   The head
of Special Projects is a electronics engineer who was chief of communica-
tions [   ] The rule is two years in headquarters and
two years abroad.   He regards all of his GS-14 and above as generalists
in communications and they may be assigned anywhere they are needed.
He is preparing these men so that one of them may ultimately take his
place as D/CO.   The Career Service Board is anxious to broaden the
experience of the promising young men.   A cryptographer is given a
chance to learn other skills. The Board tries to do what is best for
the individual and what is best for the Agency.

25X1A

25X1A

3. Question:What were the main developments in communications

training during the period?

They expanded the scope of training to keep pace with technological

developments.   A radio operator now has to have advance technical

training in how to operate more complex electrical equipment which

OC is now using. Advances have been made in cryptographic equipment

as well.   For ⬚ people have been sent to school with NSA.

(He added that there have been many developments since 1956.)

4. Question: What part has OC played in the career development

plan? In the JOT plan?

He said that OC has only had a small part in the JOT plan. The officials

in charge of the JOT program have very seldom recruited graduate engineers.

OC's usual practice is to recruit engineers and send them to their military

service.   Some members of OC have applied for JOT appointments and have

been turned down on the ground that they did not have the right kind of

academic background. JOT has rarely recruited persons who are qualified

in the communications field.

As far as career development program is concerned, OC had the first

CSB.   It spearheaded the career service. The Career Council decreed

that the CSB of OC would be the pattern for the whole Agency. OC

welcomed the CS development since it provided an orderly procedure to

insure that the best qualified persons were promoted when they deserved

promotion and not just when there happened to be headroom. OC also

has a senior officer review panel which reviews the top grades. He

showed me a memorandum which indicated the rotation assignments for all

the top personnel. (This memo was dated 24 Oct. 1958)

25X1A

5. Question: What were the important developments in relations between OC and DD/I during the period?

He felt that DD/I complex had increased comprehension of what OC could do to support them and that OC had increased understanding of intelligence needs. OSI and OC worked closely together in connection with an international conference. (It was not until 1958 that OC took over the OCI signal center.)

6. Question: What were developments in the communications network?

For the FY 1957 there was an increase of 149 in the ceiling because of the increased traffic. They added tributaries to some of the base stations. They switched from manual to radio teletype. He said that his office would furnish exact figures on the increased traffic. In 195 there were around million groups a month and there were over 14 million.

7. Question: What steps were taken to improve the efficiency of the Message Center operation.

The Message Center Operation passed to the O/DCI before the period under discussion. OC has had no responsibility for it since.

8. What important contributions were made to the development of

25X1C

technical aspects of _____ radio broadcasting?

He said that he would have the Engineering and Operations divisions look up the dates for such developments. He mentioned as a sample snuggling and mimicking.

9. Question: What were the relations between OC and _____ during the STATSPEC period?

He said that the relations had been good.

STATSPEC

lines. Later this monitoring station was moved to the S. F. area.

OC has been kept well informed

STATSPEC

and has cooperated in the formulation of evacuation plans.

STATSPEC

has its own engineers.

10. Question: What happened to the work load of OC during the period?
He said that he would furnish us with exact figures later.   Since the
amount of traffic went up, it was necessary to increase personnel.
His T/O went from 1,002 in FY 1953 to 1473 in FY57.   The work load
also increased for his supplemental programs.   As traffic goes up,
OC can figure the personnel requirements exactly since it is known
how many groups a cryptographer can handle in a given time.   OC
has a yardstick which the budget officers accept.

25X1A

25X1A

11. What were there relationships between OC and the military
communications people during the period?
There was no change in these relationships.

aid that

25X1A

he knew the communications operations of the armed services well and
he maintained good relations with his former associates. They exchanged
information on research and development programs, and they formalized
the so-called support paper with all three services.   Since July 1952
there has been increased collaboration in accordance with NSC directive regarding involving exchange
of technical information.   OC engineers discovered

25X1C

which could reclear traffic.   The military were interested in this.

12. Question: What was the comparative development of Agency and
Communist bloc communications capabilities during this period?

SECRET

-6-

This is a question for OSI not for OC.   25X1C

25X1C

13. Question:What improvements were made in the security of communications?

He said that chief of the Security Division, OC, would answer this.

When the US Communications Board was established it meant additional

installations and more equipment.

25X1A   14. [   ] had to leave at this point.   He said that his

Office would cooperate in everyway possible to give us the information

which we needed.   He mentioned the history of the earlier period but

he did not ask for it.

                                                        25X1A

SECRET